

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for migrating data between a first database and a second database, the method comprising the steps of:
  - determining ~~a set of~~ dependencies among a plurality of tables in the first database;
  - retrieving metadata from the first database, wherein the metadata includes definitions for tables in the first database;
  - reading data from tables in the first database using a plurality of read operations, wherein the read operations are structured in accordance with the retrieved metadata, and wherein the read operations are in an order indicated by the determined ~~set of~~ dependencies; and
  - writing data to the second database using a plurality of write operations, wherein the write operations are in an order indicated by the determined ~~set of~~ dependencies.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
  - storing the determined ~~set of~~ dependencies using markup language to identify table dependencies.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
  - storing the retrieved metadata using markup language to identify the retrieved metadata.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
  - performing a predetermined modification operation on the data read from the tables in the first database prior to a write operation to the second database.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4 further comprising:
  - storing the predetermined modification operation using markup language to identify the predetermined modification operation.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the first database and the second database have dissimilar schemas.
- 7-18. (Canceled)

19. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the write operations are in an order indicated by the determined dependencies to ensure referential integrity in the second database.
20. (New) The method of claim 4 wherein the predetermined modification operation comprises assigning a default value to a field in a table in the second database that does not have a corresponding field in a corresponding table in the first database.